



Attorney Docket No. 0756-7227

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al.

Serial No. 10/733,352

Filed: December 12, 2003

For: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING A
PHOTOELECTRIC CONVERSION
DEVICE

) Group Art Unit: 2812

) Examiner: Stanetta D. Isaac

) CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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) 2006.

) Adrian M. Stamps

RESPONSE

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The Official Action mailed December 30, 2005, has been received and its contents carefully noted. This response is filed within three months of the mailing date of the Official Action and therefore is believed to be timely without extension of time. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that this response is being timely filed.

The Applicants note with appreciation the consideration of the Information Disclosure Statements filed on December 12, 2003; and August 22, 2005. A further Information Disclosure Statement is submitted herewith and consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-42 are pending in the present application, of which claims 1, 10, 22, 30 and 41 are independent. For the reasons set forth in detail below, all claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

The Official Action rejects claims 1-12, 14, 16-31, 33 and 35-42 as obvious based on the combination of U.S. Patent No. 5,789,284 to Yamazaki et al. and U.S. Patent No. 6,083,324 to Henley. The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection because the Official Action has not made a *prima facie* case of obviousness.